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Hartlepool Port Health Authority

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH

For the Year Ended 31st December
1956

By JOHN CRABB,

M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.T.M. & H., D.R.C.O.G.



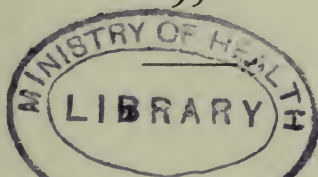
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Hartlepool Port Health Authority

1956-57

Chairman - - W. C. POUNDER

Elected by West Hartlepool Corporation :

T. BREWARD, 14, Powlett Road, West Hartlepool.
J. ADDISON, 49, Marston Gardens, West Hartlepool.
J. BRATTON, 4, Westbrooke Grove, West Hartlepool.
J. W. MILLER, J.P., 7, Southland Avenue, West Hartlepool.
W. JONES, 24, Clifton Avenue, West Hartlepool.
H. L. HOGG, C.B.E., J.P., 7, The Grove, West Hartlepool.
A. H. WRIGHT, 141, Raby Road, West Hartlepool.
G. P. K. GALLIMORE, Ambleside Manor, Elwick Road, West Hartlepool.
R. HARTLEY, 69, Milbank Road, West Hartlepool.
K. D'ALBY, 30, Hutton Avenue, West Hartlepool.

Elected by Hartlepool Corporation :

T. T. AIRD, Mill House Inn, West Hartlepool.
W. C. POUNDER, 56, Howard Street, Hartlepool.
J. McKENNA, 44, Skelton Street, Hartlepool.
F. JACQUES, J.P., 3, Marine Drive, Hartlepool.
W. W. EMERSON, 107, Winterbottom Avenue, Hartlepool.

Fixed Days of Meetings

At the Municipal Buildings, West Hartlepool.

21st June, 1956	13th December, 1956	18th April, 1957
20th September, 1956	21st February, 1957	20th June, 1957

Each day at 6-0 p.m.

Finance and Port Committees :

All the Members of the Authority are Members of these Committees.

The Committees meet on the same day as the Meeting is held.

Officers :

Clerk	C. GILBERT BUNTING, Solicitor, Exchange Building, 66, Church Street, West Hartlepool. Telephone : 3132-3 (2 lines).
Medical Officer	J. CRABB, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.T.M. & H., D.R.C.O.G., 221, Stockton Rd., West Hartlepool. Telephone : 3035.
Deputy Medical Officer		JOHN T. SMITH, M.B., Ch.B., Owton Manor West Hartlepool. Telephone : 3044.
Inspector	R. J. KNOTT, Exchange Building, 66 Church St., West Hartlepool. Telephone : 2015.
Deputy Inspector	G. A. WARD, 12, Beaconsfield Street, Hartlepool. Telephone : 6112.
Rat-Catcher	H. MENHENNET, 19, Penrith Street, Hartlepool.

ANNUAL REPORT

WEST HARTLEPOOL

To the Chairman and Members of the Hartlepool Port Health Authority.

Gentlemen,

In compliance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1956.

In accordance with the instructions from the Ministry of Health certain sections which were fully reported last year, and in which there has been no change, are simply marked "NO CHANGE."

There has been an increase in the number of ships entering the port. While there has been a decrease in the imports of pitwood and sawn timber the import of iron ore has been nearly trebled, and there would appear to be every prospect of this import increasing still further in consequence of the completion of the new quay with its improved discharging facilities. The export of coal has been slightly increased but the export of magnesite and basic slag has fallen.

One very severe case of chicken-pox was landed from a British ship.

Work under the International Sanitary Regulations, 1951, has resulted in the issue of fifty-four Deratting and Deratting Exemption Certificates compared with fifty-six in 1955. The absence of rodent life on board ships arriving in this port is again indicated by the recovery of only five rats during the year, which is the lowest since the war.

The work carried out by your Inspector, his deputy and the ratcatcher has been to my entire satisfaction, and a record of the Inspector's work is included in the Report.

In conclusion I desire to express my thanks for the valuable assistance given to me by the Chief Preventive Officer of H.M. Customs and his staff, to Captain Stathers, M.B.E. and his assistant dockmasters, to the Ministry of Transport Surveyor, to H.M. Immigration Officers, and also to the Pilot Master and the Pilots for their hearty co-operation with the officials of the Authority.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN CRABB,

M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.T.M. & H., D.R.C.O.G.

Port Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION I—STAFF.

Table A.

“NO CHANGE”

SECTION II—Amount of Shipping Entering the District during the year 1956.

Table B.

Ships from	No.	Tonnage	Number inspected		Number of ships reported as having or having had, during the voyage, infectious disease on board
			By the Medical Officer of Health	By the Sanitary Inspector	
Foreign Ports	368	350,119	51	367	2
Coastwise ..	934	929,393	36	893	Nil
Total ..	1,302	1,279,512	87	1,260	2

SECTION III—Character of Shipping and Trade during the year.

Table C.

Passenger Traffic—

This is not an approved Passenger Port and there is therefore no regular passenger traffic. Certain passengers are allowed to land subject to certain restrictions imposed by H.M. Immigration Office. The following information has been supplied through the courtesy of H.M. Immigration Officer, Middlesbrough and West Hartlepool.

No. of passengers INWARDS	156
No. of passengers OUTWARDS	134
Alien passengers embarked	19
Alien passengers landed	28

Cargo Traffic—Principal Imports :—

Sleepers	24,479 tons
Pitprops	98,198 „
Mining Timber	18,798 „
Sawn Wood	114,479 „
Logs	2,256 „
Other wood goods	1,262 „
Iron and Steel	14,101 „
Iron Ore	322,933 „
Wood pulp	12,700 „
Fuel Oil	11,935 „
Miscellaneous	156 „
Fish	2,823 „
Sago Flour	6,168 „

Principal Exports :—

Coal and Coke	2,082,376 tons
Magnesite	4,794 „
Machinery	1,044 „
General	1,587 „
Basic Slag	143,179 „

The above particulars have been supplied through the courtesy of the Docks and Inland Waterways Executive.

Principal Ports from which Ships Arrive—

Cargo	Foreign Ports
Props ..	Archangel, Arendal, Hamina, Himango, Jacobstad, Kristiansand, Leningrad, Lillesand, Mantylouto, Orno, Porsgrund, Yxpila.
Timber ..	Aarhus, Archangel, Bayonne, Blankaholm, Danzig, Frederikshamm, Gothenberg, Halmstad, Hamburg, Hamina, Helsinki, Holmsund, Hudiksvall, Jacobstad, Kalmar, Karlshamm, Karlstad, Kasko, Kemi, Kotka, Kristiansand, Kristinehamn, Leningrad, Mantylouto, Mesane, Munksund, Norrkoping, Porsgrund, Skogby, Stockholm, Vancouver, Vestervik.
Mahogany Logs ..	West Africa.
Wood pulp	Archangel, Murmansk, Oporto.
Sleepers ..	Bordeaux, Bayonne, Halmstad.
Scrap Iron	Amsterdam, Brussels, Casablanca, Peurto Rico.
Sago Flour	Delfziel, Groningen.
Iron Ore ..	Agadir, Danzig, Gefle, La Goulette, Mazarron, Narvik, Oxelosund, Port Ordaz.

Ships arrived light from—

Aarhus, Amsterdam, Caen, Calais, Emden, Esbjerg, Ghent, Gothenburg, Hamburg, Oxelosund, Rotterdam.

SECTION IV—Inland Barge Traffic.

There is no such traffic.

SECTION V—Water Supply.

“ NO CHANGE ”

SECTION VI—Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952.

“ NO CHANGE ”

SECTION VII—Smallpox.

(1) Smallpox patients would be sent to Langley Park Hospital, Langley Park, County Durham.

(2) Arrangements have been made with the County Borough of West Hartlepool to remove any smallpox cases arriving, or occurring, in the port, and they are responsible for the vaccinal state of the ambulance crews.

(3) Smallpox consultants available are :—

Dr. J. B. Robinson, Brierton Hospital, West Hartlepool and Dr. E. Thorpe, 13, The Broadway, Grindon, Sunderland.

(4) Facilities for the laboratory diagnosis of smallpox are at the Bacteriology Department, School of Hygiene, Liverpool.

SECTION VIII—Venereal Disease.

“ NO CHANGE ”

SECTION IX—Cases of Notifiable and other Infectious Diseases on Ships.

Table D.

Category	Disease	No. of cases during year		No. of ships concerned
		Passengers	Crew	
Cases landed from ships from foreign ports ..	Chicken Pox	Nil	1	1
Cases which have occurred on ships from foreign ports but have been disposed of before arrival	Chicken Pox	Nil	1	1
Cases landed from other ships		Nil	Nil	Nil

SECTION X—Observations on the occurrence of Malaria in Ships.

There have been no cases of malaria on ships in or arriving at the port.

SECTION XI—Measures taken against Ships infected with or suspected for Plague.

There have been no such ships in the port.

SECTION XII—Measures against Rodents in Ships from Foreign Ports.

(1) Procedure for Inspection of Ships for Rats—

All ships arriving from foreign ports are searched as early as possible after arrival, to the extent that cargo will allow. After some of the cargo has been discharged from the holds further search is made.

(2) Arrangements for the Examination of Rodents—

All rodents recovered are examined superficially by the Inspector or the rat-catcher and any showing signs of not having been in good health are sent for pathological and bacteriological examination to Dr. T. Blower, Pathologist, General Hospital, West Lane, Middlesbrough.

(3) Arrangements for Deratting of Ships—

In case of a minor infestation on a ship holding a valid deratting or deratting exemption certificate the port Rat-catcher carries out trapping or poisoning or both.

Deratting for the issue of a Deratting Certificate is done with cyanide by private contractors to the satisfaction of the Medical Officer.

The Contractor is not nominated by the Medical Officer.

Firms who undertake fumigations are :—

Ben Wright & Co. Ltd.	Middlesbrough
Barber & Heron & Co.	South Shields
Milburn & Co. Ltd.	Sunderland.

(4) Rat-proofing of ships—

Rat-proofing of new vessels is satisfactory. Old tonnage is improved as is necessary and practical.

Table E.

Rodents destroyed during the year in ships from foreign ports—

Category	Number
Black rats	5
Brown rats	Nil
Species not known	Nil
Sent for examination	1
Infected with plague.. .. .	Nil

Table F.

Deratting Certificates and Deratting Exemption Certificates issued during the year for ships from foreign ports—

No. of Deratting Certificates issued					No. of Deratting Exemption Certificates issued	Total Certificates issued
After fumigation with		After Trapping	After Poisoning	Total		
H.C.N.	Other fumigant (state method)					
1	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	22	23

In addition 30 Deratting Exemption Certificates were issued to coastwise vessels and one coastwise vessel was fumigated with H.C.N. and deratting certificate issued.

SECTION XIII—Inspection of Ships for Nuisances.

Table G.

Inspections and Notices—

Nature and No. of inspections	Notices served		Result of serving notices
	Statutory notices	Other notices	
1260	Nil	38 Verbal & informal	All Complied with

The nuisances and sanitary defects consisted mainly of dirty and verminous quarters, defective and foul W.C.'s, leaking decks and defective ports and portlights.

SECTION XIV—Public Health (Shell-fish) Regulations 1943 and 1948.

“NO CHANGE”

SECTION XV—Medical Inspection of Aliens.

This is not an approved port for the landing of aliens.

SECTION XVI—Miscellaneous.

Dead bodies are removed immediately to the nearest mortuary and action taken to secure speedy interment of the same.

